10-25-06

IFW

PTO/SB/21 (09-06)
Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission	8

Application Number	10/567,521
Filing Date	February 6, 2006
First Named Inventor	Ryuji Kitaura
Art Unit	N/A
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	64802371(71004)

ENCLOSURES (*Check all that apply*)

- [ ] Fee Transmittal Form
  - [ ] Fee Attached
- [ ] Amendment/Reply
  - [ ] After Final
  - [ ] Affidavits/declaration(s)
- [ ] Extension of Time Request
- [ ] Express Abandonment Request
- [ ] Information Disclosure Statement
- [ ] Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- [ ] Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
  - [ ] Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- [ ] Drawing(s)
- [ ] Licensing-related Papers
- [ ] Petition
- [ ] Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- [ ] Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- [ ] Terminal Disclaimer
- [ ] Request for Refund
- [ ] CD, Number of CD(s) _____
  - [ ] Landscape Table on CD
- [ ] After Allowance Communication to TC
- [ ] Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- [ ] Appeal Communication to TC **(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)**
- [ ] Proprietary Information
- [ ] Status Letter
- [x] Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):

Return Receipt Postcard
Annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/JP2004/010203) and English Translation (7 pages)

Remarks

The Notice of Acceptance of Application Under 25 U.S.C. 371 notes that the Annexes to the IPE Report were not included with the copy of the Report filed 2/6/06. The Annexes and their English translation are enclosed herewith.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Peter J. Manus		
Date	October 23, 2006	Reg. No.	26,766

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Label No. EV892896035US, on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: October 23, 2006 Signature:  (Laurie Brown)

請求の範囲

[1] (補正後) 3次元映像データの表示を制御するための制御情報に基づいて、3次元映像を再生する立体映像再生装置であって、

前記3次元映像データを表示した後の表示画面における視差量が、前記3次元映像データを基準となる表示装置に表示した際の表示画面における視差量よりも大きくなるか否かを、前記基準となる表示装置の分解能に関する情報もしくは、前記表示画面に表示する際の前記3次元映像データの表示サイズに関する情報のうち少なくともいずれか一方を含む前記制御情報に基づいて判定する判定手段と、

前記視差量を変更するための画像処理を施す画像処理手段とを備え、

前記判定手段により前記視差量が大きくなると判定された場合に、前記画像処理手段による画像処理を行うことを特徴とする立体映像再生装置。

[2] 前記画像処理手段は、前記3次元映像データを構成する所定の視点の映像を水平方向に移動して視差量を調整する視差量調整手段を備えることを特徴とする請求項1に記載の立体映像再生装置。

[3] 前記画像処理手段は、前記3次元映像データの画像サイズを変更するサイズ変更手段を備えることを特徴とする請求項1又は請求項2に記載の立体映像再生装置。

[4] (削除)

[5] (削除)

[6] (補正後) 3次元映像データの表示を制御するための制御情報に基づいて、3次元映像を再生する立体映像再生装置であって、

前記制御情報に応じて、前記3次元映像データを表示した後の表示画面における視差量が、立体視可能な値であるか否かを判定する判定手段と、

前記3次元映像データの画像サイズを変更するサイズ変更手段とを備え、

前記判定手段により立体視可能な値でないと判定された場合に、前記拡大及び縮小率を制限することを特徴とする立体映像再生装置。

[7] 前記制御情報は、重要な被写体の視差量を含み前記3次元映像データの視差量を表す視差情報を含むことを特徴とする請求項6に記載の立体映像再生装置。

[8] (補正後) 3次元映像データの表示を制御するための制御情報に基づいて、3次元

映像を再生する立体映像再生方法であって、

前記3次元映像データを表示した後の表示画面における視差量が、前記3次元映像データを基準となる表示装置に表示した際の表示画面における視差量よりも大きくなるか否かを、前記基準となる表示装置の分解能に関する情報もしくは、前記表示画面に表示する際の前記3次元映像データの表示サイズに関する情報のうち少なくともいずれか一方を含む前記制御情報に基づいて判定する判定ステップと、

前記視差量を変更するための画像処理を施す画像処理ステップとを備え、

前記判定ステップにより視差量が大きくなると判定された場合に、前記画像処理ステップによる画像処理を行うことを特徴とする立体映像再生方法。

[9] (補正後) 前記画像処理ステップは、前記3次元映像データを構成する所定の視点の映像を水平方向に移動して視差量を調整する視差量調整ステップを備えることを特徴とする請求項8に記載の立体映像再生方法。

[10] 前記画像処理ステップは、前記3次元映像データの画像サイズを変更することを特徴とする請求項8又は請求項9に記載の立体映像再生方法。

[11] (削除)

[12] (削除)

[13] (補正後) 3次元映像データの表示を制御するための制御情報に基づいて、3次元映像を再生する立体映像再生方法であって、

前記制御情報に応じて、前記3次元映像データを表示した後の表示画面における視差量が、立体視可能な値であるか否かを判定する判定ステップと、

前記3次元映像データの画像サイズを変更するサイズ変更ステップとを備え、

前記判定ステップにより立体視可能な値でないと判定された場合に、前記拡大及び縮小率を制限することを特徴とする立体映像再生方法。

[14] (補正後) 前記制御情報は、重要な被写体の視差量を含み、前記3次元映像データの視差量を表す視差情報を含むことを特徴とする請求項13に記載の立体映像再生方法。

CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A stereoscopic image reproducing apparatus for reproducing a three-dimensional image based on control information for controlling a display of three-dimensional image data, comprising:

a decision means for deciding whether an amount of parallax on a display screen after the three-dimensional image data has been displayed is greater than an amount of parallax on a display screen when the three-dimensional image data is displayed on a standard display apparatus, based on the control information which at least contains either information as to a resolving power of the standard display apparatus or information as to a display size of the three-dimensional image data when the data is displayed on the display screen; and

an image processing means for implementing an image process for changing the amount of parallax,

wherein when the decision means determines that the amount of parallax will be greater, the image process by the image processing means is implemented.

2. The stereoscopic image reproducing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the image processing means includes a parallax quantity adjusting means for adjusting the amount of parallax by horizontally shifting an image from a

predetermined viewpoint which constitutes the three-dimensional image data.

3. The stereoscopic image reproducing apparatus according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the image processing means includes a resizing means for changing an image size of the three-dimensional image data.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Amended) A stereoscopic image reproducing apparatus for reproducing a three-dimensional image based on control information for controlling the display of three-dimensional image data, comprising:

a decision means for deciding based on the control information whether an amount of parallax on a display screen after the three-dimensional image data has been displayed is a value that allows for stereoscopic vision; and

a resizing means for changing an image size of the three-dimensional image data,

wherein when the decision means determines that the amount is a value that will not allow for stereoscopic vision, the enlargement and reduction ratio is limited.

7. The stereoscopic image reproducing apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein the control information contains parallax information representing an amount of parallax of the three-dimensional image data including an amount of parallax of a subject of importance.

8. (Amended) A stereoscopic image reproducing method for reproducing a three-dimensional image based on control information for controlling a display of three-dimensional image data, comprising:

a decision step for deciding whether an amount of parallax on a display screen when the three-dimensional image data is displayed is greater than an amount of parallax on a display screen when the three-dimensional image data is displayed on a standard display apparatus, based on the control information which at least contains either information as to a resolving power of the standard display apparatus or information as to a display size of the three-dimensional image data when the data is displayed on the display screen; and

an image processing step for implementing an image process for changing the amount of parallax,

wherein when the decision step determines that the amount of parallax will be greater, the image process by the image

processing step is implemented.

9. (Amended) The stereoscopic image reproducing method according to Claim 8, wherein the image processing step includes a parallax quantity adjustment step for adjusting the amount of parallax by horizontally shifting an image from a predetermined viewpoint which constitutes the three-dimensional image data.

10. The stereoscopic image reproducing method according to Claim 8 or 9, wherein the image processing step includes resizing of an image size of the three-dimensional image data.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Amended) A stereoscopic image reproducing method for reproducing a three-dimensional image based on control information for controlling a display of three-dimensional image data, comprising:

a decision step for deciding based on the control information whether an amount of parallax on a display screen after the three-dimensional image data has been displayed is a value that allows for stereoscopic vision; and

a resizing step for changing an image size of the three-dimensional image data,

wherein when the decision means determines that the amount is a value that will not allow for stereoscopic vision, the enlargement and reduction ratio is limited.

14. The stereoscopic image reproducing method according to Claim 13, wherein the control information contains parallax information representing an amount of parallax of the three-dimensional image data including an amount of parallax of a subject of importance.